BUSINESS / B1

Exports jumped 27.3% in Jan. to $4.17B, fastest pace in 7 years

WORLD / A21

New evidence delays release of autopsy report of Anna Nicole Smith

WORLD / A22

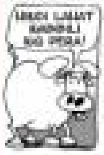
US Democrats demand troop pullout in March, 2008

SATURDAY SPECIAL / F1

Nestor Torre: Why did Beyonce agree to star in film where real star is Jennifer Hudson?



Rich man, poor man share bottom rung in survey



By Christian Esguerra

THE BIGGEST SPENDER among the senatorial candidates placed between 22nd and 28th in the latest survey of the Social Weather Stations.

That is how for the PSE

RICH/A6

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Saturday, March 10, 2007 ★★ 7 sections / Vol. 22 / No. 93 P18 online www.inquirer.net

RP oil worker freed but Pinay not kidnapped

A FILIPINO OIL WORKER KIDNAPPED BY unknown gunmen in Niger in last month has been freed unharmed, Foreign Undersecretary Esteban Conejos announced yesterday.

Conejos said Winston Helera, 55, was released on Thursday and was undergoing a medical checkup by his employers.

Conejos also said Filipino businesswoman Jocelerth Ferrazzo, who was reported kidnapped

RP/A6

CPP, NPA face terror tag

DND exec: They must come down from the hills



HERE COME THE COMPLAINANTS. Three relatives of ex-NPA members at the Comelec for their petition to disqualify party-lists Bayan Muna, Anakpawis and Gabriela.

By Christine O. Avendaño

AFTER NEARLY 40 YEARS OF EXISTENCE, THE COMMUNIST Party of the Philippines and its armed wing, the New People's Army, could be declared terrorist organizations under the Philippines' new antiterror law, Defense Undersecretary Ricardo Blancaflor said yesterday.

That is, unless they stop resorting to "terrorist" acts and start coming down from the hills, according to Blancaflor, who is also the director of the country's antiterrorism task force.

Blancaflor accused the CPP-NPA of committing acts that fall under the definition of terrorism under the Human Security Act, or antiterror law, which will take effect on July 14, or two months after the May elections.

"Now, if they will stop doing (acts of terrorism) after July 14, if they will start coming down from the hills, if they will stop these abuses, condemn their own killings, then there will be no need to tag them as terrorists," Blancaflor told reporters.

As of this time, the antiterror law—which President Macapagal-Arroyo signed earlier this week—is not yet in effect, he said.

If it should declare the CPP-NPA as terrorist groups, the Arroyo administration will actually be following in the footsteps of the United States, which has included the two organizations on its list of foreign terrorist organizations.

The CPP was established in December 1968 and the NPA about three months later.

Blancaflor said several other groups, such as the Abu Sayyaf bandits, could be classified as terrorist after the law takes effect.

Blancaflor said that after July 14, a working group would be created to start a "proscription process" expected to result in the drawing up of a terrorist list.

CPP/A17

Joma, Satur: We were in jail during killings

By Christian V. Esguerra and TJ Burgonio

THE FOUNDING CHAIR OF THE Communist Party of the Philippines and another leftist leader said yesterday they could not have ordered the killings of suspected military spies in Leyte in the 1980s because they were in jail at the time.

The denials came as the government widened the hunt for another leftist leader, Bayan Muna party-list Rep. Satur Ocampo, who had made himself scarce—and even stopped taking phone calls—after he was also linked to the 22-year-old murders.

CPP founder Jose Maria Sison and Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas deputy secretary general Randall Echanis issued separate denials of involvement in the killings of communist rebels suspected of spying for the military.

The National Bureau of Investigation has joined the hunt for Ocampo.

Regional Director Ruel Lasala, chief of the NBI National Capital Region, said five teams from the bureau were now looking for Ocampo in the metropolis.

Ocampo is also being hunted in other parts of the country as the bureau's regional offices have already been placed on alert, said Reynaldo Esmeralda, deputy director for NBI regional operations service.

Lasala said the arrest warrant had

JOMA/A17

Bayan Muna, allies leading party-list race–SWS survey

By Kate Pedroso
Inquirer Research

NINE PARTY-LIST GROUPS HAVE met the minimum 2-percent rule, with 66 percent of registered voters—an estimated 30.9 million adult Filipinos—voting for their preference in the Social Weather Stations' First Quarter 2007 Social Weather Survey.

The militant Bayan Muna led the list with over 5,460 voters (17 percent), followed by its allies Anakpawis (9.4 percent) and Gabriela (6.1 percent). The other groups who made the cut were Aangat Ka Pinoy (5.9 percent), An Waray (3.1 percent), Aangat Tayo (4.2 percent), Akbayan (4 percent), Abs-Abs (2.3 percent) and Anak Mindanao (Amin) (2.2 percent).

SWS said that with the survey results, Bayan Muna would retain the three seats currently occupied by Representatives Satur Ocampo, Teodoro Casiño and Joel Virador, while Amin will retain its lone seat

SURVEY/A17



PHOTO OP WITH GMA / During a break at the Philippine Development Forum 2007 in Cebu City on Friday, two ladies position themselves for a souvenir shot with the President who, however, is deep in shop talk with PDF Chair and Finance Secretary Margarito Teves (left) and World Bank Country Director Joachim von Amsberg.

Quintos brods' pa: Solgen lawyering for Villarosa

By Jocelyn R. Uy and Leila B. Salaverria

FEELING BETRAYED BY THE OFFICE OF the Solicitor General, Ricardo Quintos says his only recourse now is to pray for justice from the heavens.

"What can we do but to exert our legal efforts, then abandon and pray for the mercy of justice. One that is true, perfect and permanent," said Quintos, a former governor of Occidental Mindoro.

Quintos waited for almost 10 years to obtain court justice for his two sons, Michael and Paul, who were shot dead at a party in Mamburao on Dec. 13, 1997.

On March 1, 2006, Jose Villarosa, a former Occidental Mindoro congressman, and six farmers known as the "Mamburao 6," were sentenced to death by a Quezon City court for the murder of the Quintos brothers. The case is on appeal.

"Why didn't they [the OSG] just wait for the Court of Appeals to decide on the

QUINTOS/A6

Bill Gates still richest; Indians top Japanese

NEW YORK—MICROSOFT CO-FOUNDER Bill Gates is still the richest man in the world, but his lead over other entrepreneurs is narrowing, according to Forbes magazine's newly released list of billionaires.

Gates led the super rich list for the 13th straight year with a tidy nest egg of $56 billion followed by US investment guru Warren Buffett with $52 billion.

There were now a record 946 billionaires in the world, up more than 150 from last year, with Forbes attributing the increase to a commodities boom, the march of technology and the relative weakness of the US dollar.

BILL GATES/A6

Hands On volunteers rebuild Bicol town

By TJ Burgonio

STO. DOMINGO, ALBAY—THREE SCHOOLboys peered through the window's bamboo slats as Barbara Lacy, Andrea Gillespie, Nicola Ide and several others deftly applied green paint on wooden desks inside the decrepit classroom.

That task done, the group headed outdoors for some fresh air and then clambered up a bamboo ladder to get to the new tin roof, on which they brushed bright yellow paint.

They worked for hours, unmindful of the drizzle that gave way to searing heat.

Elsewhere, against the backdrop of a rain-shrouded Mayon Volcano, Jessica Kinahan and a shirtless Tim Fudge vigorously shoveled four-meter-high black silt from the sides of a one-story concrete house.

[illegible] and [illegible] hammered a tarpaulin onto the roof of another dwelling, and Kim Maher hopped from house to house, asking about the residents' needs.

It was all in a day's work for volunteers who had flown in from across the globe to

HANDS/A17



COOL CATS ON HOT TIN ROOF of a daycare center which is about to get a new coat of hot yellow paint, thanks to the volunteers of the US-based Hands On Disaster Response who's here to help rebuild "Reming"-battered Sto. Domingo, Albay

For better memory, stop, smell the roses

WASHINGTON—PEOPLE WHO WANT to learn things might do better by simply stopping to smell the roses, researchers reported on Thursday.

German researchers found they could use odors to reactivate new memories in the brains of people while they slept—and the volunteers remembered better later.

Writing in the journal Science, they said their study showed that memories are indeed consolidated during sleep, and show that smells and perhaps other stimuli can reinforce brain learning pathways.

Jan Born of the University of Lubeck in

FOR BETTER/A6

MEGALOTTO 6/45

3 4 22 24 26 27

P37,717,254.00

Second
FRONTPAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

Nur barred from Saudi embassy

By DJ Yap

DETAINED MUSLIM REBEL leader Nur Misuari was barred yesterday from entering the Embassy of Saudi Arabia where he was to perform noon prayers after his police escorts refused to hand over their firearms to the embassy's security personnel.



NO FRIDAY PRAYERS

DAR pledge just for show, farmers say

By TJ Burgonio





Recto unfazed by govs' threat to junk him, if...

Lomibao quits NIA, will go up vs Joe de V. Lim



World Bank advice to RP: Reform more, scrimp less

Court OKs medical leave for Atong Ang

By Jocelyn R. Uy

[illegible]

Boracay demolition inevitable, says tourism chief

Wider roads

Master plan

Talks is off

Corrections

The Daily Gospel

Hands On volunteers rebuild Bicol town

Community building

Shoveling lahar

Daycare center

Beginnings

No complaints



RP oil worker freed but Pinay not kidnapped

3,500 Filipinos

Quintos brods' pa: Solgen lawyering for Villarosa

Lawyering for accused

Raise issue to SC

'Inadmissible confession'

Taped confession

Villarosa named

Enough evidence to convict

Conspiracy

Bill Gates still richest; Indians top Japanese

3 from RP

Billionaire no more

'Sizzling year' for Asia

'Richest year' in history

Richest woman

Starbucks power

For better memory, stop, smell the roses

Sleep 'learning'

Rich man, poor man share bottom rung in survey

'Money isn't everything'

P1.3-M blitz

Meeting with Gloria

Cayetano seeks out namesake in Davao

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM

Notice of Coverage

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Judicial will

EDITORIAL

IT TOOK THE SUPREME COURT TO TELL THE CITY of Manila and the oil companies to stop malingering and obey the law. The law in this case being a city ordinance reclassifying the Pandacan oil depot property from an industrial to a commercial zone. [illegible]

[illegible]



Auction of public offices

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

SHORTLY AFTER MY RETIREMENT FROM the Supreme Court [illegible]

[illegible]

A man of strong faith and morals

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

"ABOVE ALL, WE HAVE TO RESONATE THE [illegible]

[illegible]

Lakas, Kampi battle at grass roots

POLITICAL TIDBITS



Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

There's still time for automated polls

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Europe's fight against terrorism

WORLD VIEW



Gijs de Vries

Detention without trial is counterproductive in the fight against terrorism. So is torture. To defeat the terrorists we must offer a vision of a more just and equitable world

Truth hurts

YOUNG BLOOD

Frances Paola G. Duplon

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS:

'To fight for fish and rice'



Militarization not answer to cry for food and justice

Inquirer should hear other side

Voters' bigger responsibility during elections

Soldiers urged: Help restore AFP's lost glory

Crowns more edifying if won by local talents

INQUIRER Visayas

Colon: Cebu's link to Chinese past

By Gavin Sanson Bagares
Cebu City

COLON STREET EVOKES A storied past. And promotion has something to do with it. A check on any tourist brochure or history book portrays it as "the oldest street in the Philippines."



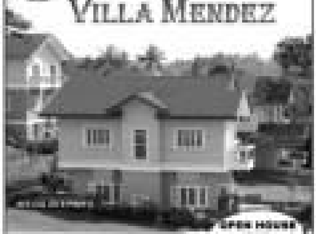
COLON Street, today, from the vantage of Barangay Parian.



COLON Street before electrification in 1905.

Boomtown

The backwater years







PHILIPPINE MADE, Replika of ISRAEL'S ARK OF THE COVENANT. Dr. Myles Munroe, world renowned motivational speaker, author of best selling books, Pastor, Ambassador of the Bahamas, a mighty man of God **received with great joy the Replika of the Ark of the Covenant proudly Philippine made given by Mr. Paul and Grace Gapuna. Dr. Munroe expressed his gratefulness and said, "Thank you so much! This is what I needed. I am going to put it in my sanctuary and it will be seen all over the world during my T.V. Program". He added, "Thank you for reminding us of what is most important on earth, that is the presence of God"** and he prayed for Paul and Grace saying, "I bless your family and everything you put your hands to do and let this day be the end of frustration in your life and the beginning of Kingdom Peace like never before. I release anointing with the power of God may this family be unified in Your presence and be in good health. Amen. **Sps. Paul and Grace Gapuna are the owners of ABS Gen Herbs Int'l., Makers of ABS 7 Bitter Herbs, Charagen Ampalaya Forte 100% leaves extract.** (Department of Health recently vindicated Ampalaya based products as Herbal Medicine to fight diabetes 2.) **ABS Herbs company's outreach ministry is the HalleluYAH PG Ministries Int'l., who made and successfully unfurled the (2) two largest flags in the world, December 2006.** The Philippine and Israel flags both 200 meters by 100 meters at 2 hectares in size. Dr. Munroe conducted leadership training seminar at the PICC, Manila Hotel and Cebu last March 1-3, 2007. In photo is his family with Ruth, Former Congressman Joe Ramirez, Executive Director of the Philippine National Breakfast Fellowship, Mr. Rene and Cathy Amara of HalleluYAH PG Ministries Int'l. The Prime Mover of the **HalleluYAH 777 Celebration worldwide.** www.halleluyahpg.com

LGUs get ₱15B as GMA pushes Senate bets

CEBU CITY—PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO on Thursday announced the increase of the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) share of all local government units in the country.



SLOW DAY

Priest dies of heart attack in protest rally

Ombudsman to expand probe of ₱200,000 each lampposts



A GRANDIOSE reception awaited delegates to the Asean summit in Cebu. At least ₱1 billion of public funds were spent for the hosting of the summit, including for lampposts that cost as much as ₱200,000 each.

Legarda seeks backing for Davao industries



LEGARDA pressing the flesh in a campaign rally in Davao City.

Retired teacher files bid to enter gov race vs 'jueteng,' quarry scam

CPP, NPA face terror tag

3 elements

12 offenses

Freezing bank accounts

Amendments needed

Assurance to media

Joma, Satur: We were in jail during killings

Figment of imagination

Low profile

Skeletal remains

Ready to face charges

Bayan Muna, allies leading ...

Marginalized sectors

Possible loss of place

Error margin

CURRENT PARTY-LIST REPRESENTATIVES

Joker tells military: Stop digging into past cases

By Gil Cabacungan Jr.

Bayan Muna continues to gain strength, says Casiño

By Tarra Quismundo

Impact on justice system

News

ELECTION '07

No way for Team Unity to go but up–Defensor

Erap asks all GO bets to join sorties in South

Tigers whip Giants, gain solo PBA lead

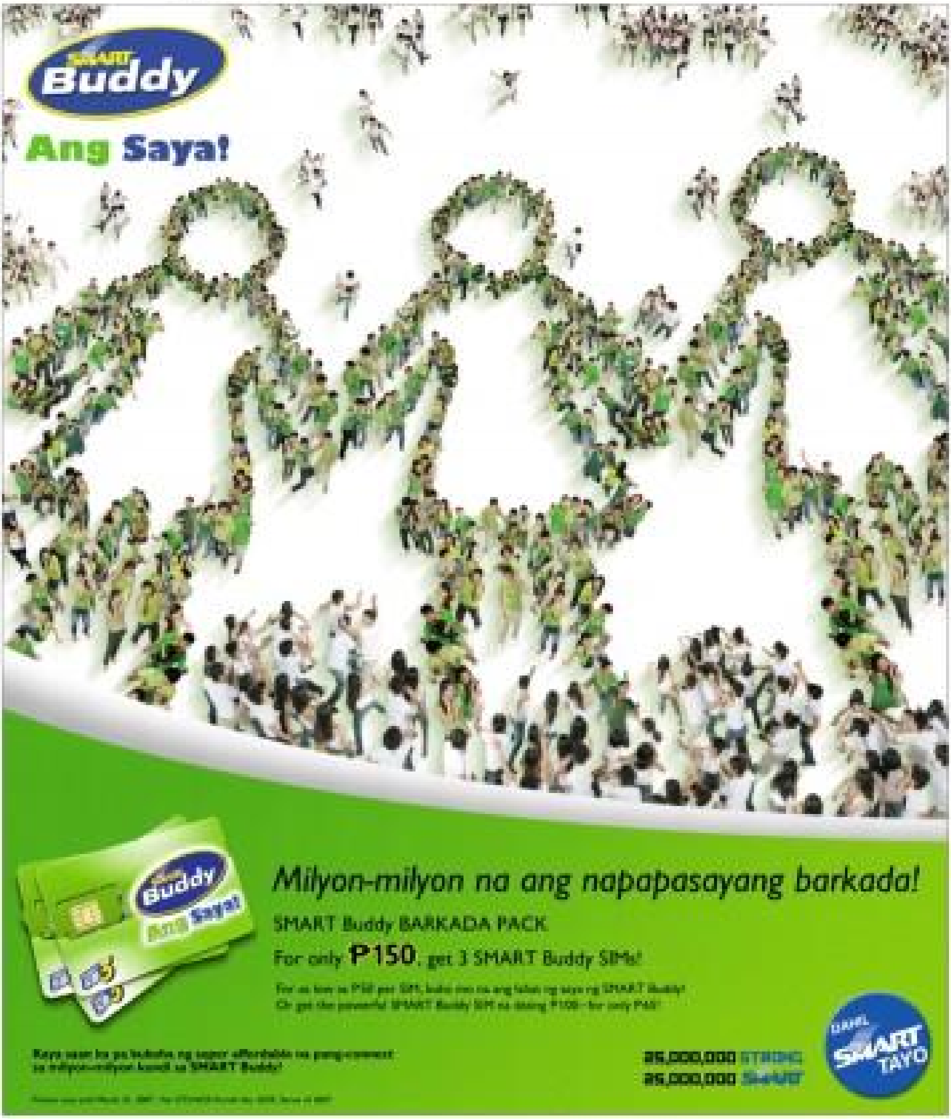


Aplus METRO

Court asked to cite Leviste, docs for indirect contempt

DOJ says parties defied return-to-jail order





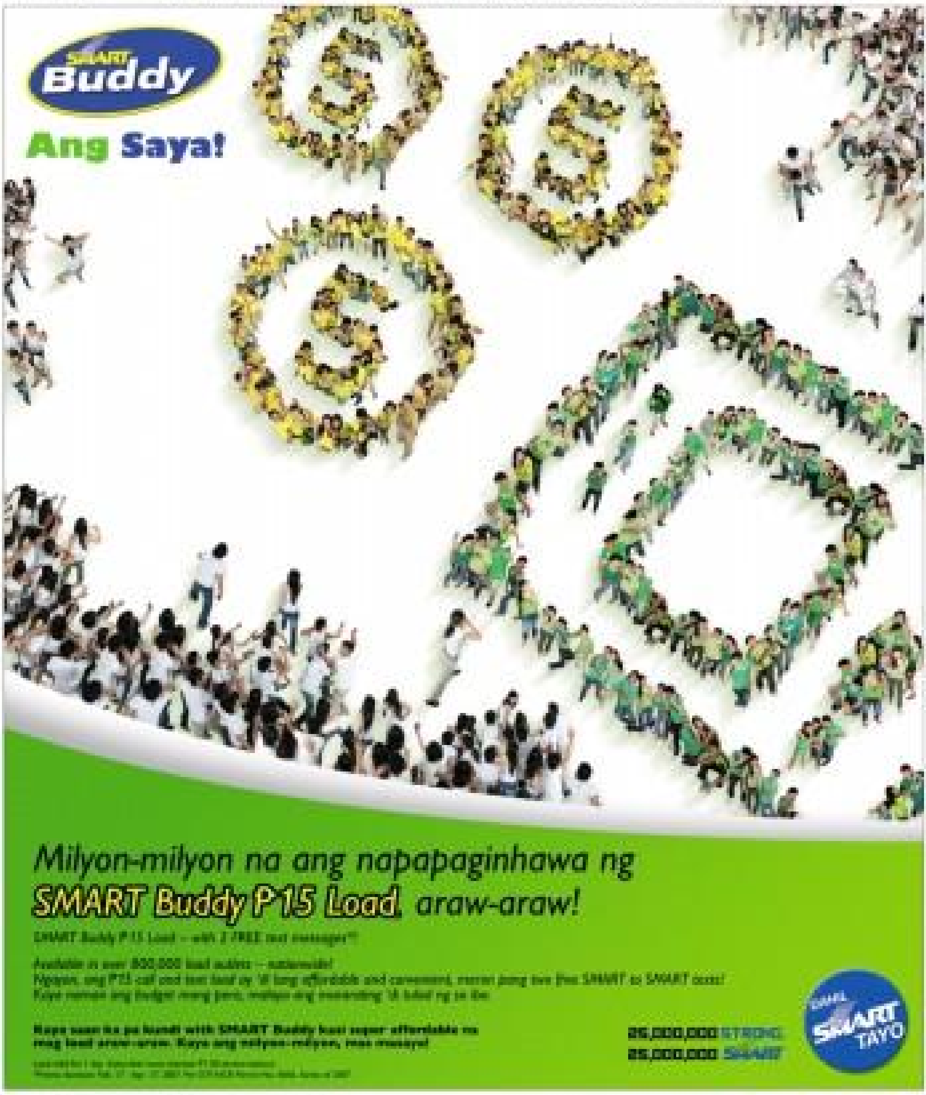
Mayor seeks new date for bridge closure

Alternate route

Jose Rizal faces illegal hiring raps

Chief Justice plans to abolish Court of Appeals-Cebu

ON TARGET



Trial sets tone for US immigration crackdown



SMITH

Smith autopsy report to be delayed because of new evidence

The WORLD

EU seeks to seal climate change deal

BRUSSELS—A DRAFT FINAL STATEMENT AT A European Union summit on Friday set a binding target of 20 percent of renewable sources in EU energy consumption by 2020 in an ambitious strategy to fight climate change.

[illegible]

Don't discuss polar bears, US scientists told

[illegible]

Democrats demand Iraq pullout in March 2008

[illegible]



AN INDONESIAN passenger jet flies over the wreckage of Garuda Indonesia's Boeing 737-400 which crash-landed and burst into flames on Wednesday at Adisucipto airport in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, March 9.

Sudden downdraft cited in Indonesia jet inferno

[illegible]

Threats, conciliatory gestures on Women's Day



AN ANDEAN woman attends a rally to mark the International Women's Day in Cusco, Peru, March 8.

[illegible]

Diary shows Hirohito didn't want war in China

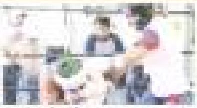
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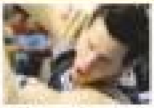
SPORTS

Editor: Teddyvic S. Melendres

WHAT'S INSIDE









Amazing Alcano seeks 3rd title

Manila to host maiden world 10-ball tourney

HE PROUDLY WEARS THE world 9-ball and 8-ball crowns, but Ronnie Alcano feels he has a good chance at grabbing the world 10-ball title as well.



RONNIE Alcano, the only Filipino to hold the world 9-ball and 8-ball championships at the same time, is also eyeing the 10-ball title.

Alcano arrives tomorrow

Filipinos have edge



Frankie, 3 other Pinoys make cut



Pine City bets overtake Pangasinan

Capture 20 gold medals in arnis



FEU, UST lady booters renew Ang Liga rivalry

Fisherman's daughter, shoeless wonder



SPORTSWATCH

La Salle-Dasma clinches volley title

Milo Checkmate clinics open Monday

'King of the Ring' slated at Roligon

51 fights in Las Piñas derby today

Five-cocker kicks off at Makati Coliseum

ASIAN CITIES CHESS

Dimakiling, So rule as Tagaytay-RP clinches 2nd

Filipino bets to Thailand SEAG could swell to 400

Confident Peñalosa asks for prayers



Centennial, other RP yachts hold sway

11-fights in 'Fearless' at Metrowalk tonight

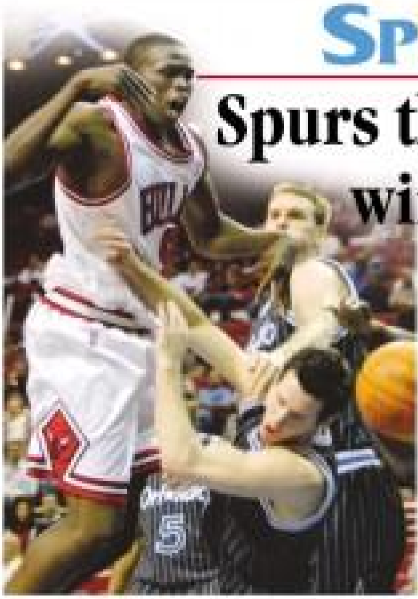


Big double-header fires off NBC hoopfest today

Top motorsports backer returns

Villanueva forges showdown with Torre for La Union title

SPORTS



Spurs thump Kings, raise winning streak to 11

Chinese clog NBA website

Federer's record awes Murray



FEDERER



MURRAY



King bests Ukrainian as Pacific Open starts



Spain struggles for survival in Europe football

Criticism mounts over Tiger's event



WOODS



Business



Exports jumped 27.3% in January to $4.17B

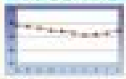


Fastest pace in 7 years

EXPORTS SURGED 27.3 PERCENT IN JANUARY FROM A YEAR earlier to $4.17 billion, the fastest annual pace in more than seven years as key semiconductor shipments rebounded, the National Statistics Office reported yesterday.

EXPORTS B4

Currencies



Stock Market



Shares close 2.36% higher

SHARES B3

Big budget deficit seen in first quarter

BUDGET B2



China opens door to RP's ICTSI

Port operator buys into Yantai Gangtong Container Terminal



C&P creditors agree to swap bonds

In search for oil, Chevron to go over old RP data

Exports . . .

Big budget . . .

Shares close . . .

Banks' soured credit card exposure declining

'06 FDI flows exceed goal

Whole-year net investments hit $2.35B

By Doris C. Dumlao

Araneta earmarks P5B for expansion



SCIENCE/HEALTH

RP welcomes world's first cervical cancer vaccine



Extremely contagious

Approval hailed

Cervical cancer

Treatment



Cell phones filthier than toilet seats?

MEDICAL FILES

Breeding ground for bacteria

Evidence of bacterial growth

Preventing germ transmission

How much (info) is enough?

DISCOVER



For further investigation

Why get vaccinated?

EUREKA!



Flu shot

Immunizations

Vaccinations

Property

Editor: Cesar D. Mangawang

Providing stable water supply to needy residential communities



By Charles E. Buban

WATER SERVICE is so vital to any residential community that without such basic infrastructure, it cannot be expected to grow and prosper.

"Without water, poor communities are at a bigger disadvantage. Usually, they have to pay five times the current rates, have fewer hours of water supply and buy water from vendors," said Antonino Aquino, president of Manila Water Company Inc.

Aquino informed that just recently, three residential communities in Rizal province (aside from supplying parts of Metro Manila, the company is also in charge of servicing the cities and towns of Rizal province) became Manila Water's latest recipients of its sustainable development program called Tubig para sa Barangay (TPSB).

Started in 1998, the program has since provided safe drinking water to informal settlements, while successfully reduced water losses mostly caused by unregistered connections from these areas.

3 recipients

The three recipients were Kasiglahan Village

PROVIDING B8-4

Enjoying bed and breakfast

LIVING ARCHITECTURE







McKinley Hill Village selling fast

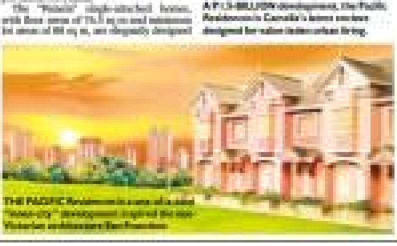




Providing stable water supply . . .

Sensible urban living at Camella's Pacific Residences



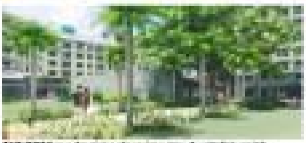


Genuine freedom of low-density condominium living





Real value



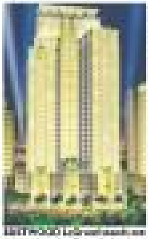
Not compromised

Live in style at Eastwood LeGrand





Modern interiors





Fitness station

PROPERTY

Brittany: Changing the face of Makati CBD

A NEW TWIST TO fine living in the midst of a concrete jungle finds its way to the premiere Central Business District. With Brittany Corp.'s first foray into the highly competitive high-rise residential condominium development in Makati, the maverick real estate developer is changing the urban landscape with an innovative approach to living in the heart of the metropolis.

Unique Brittany signature

Amenities



THE MOSAIC is the first-ever designer condo in the country.

Filipino windows among Asia's best

Manila's best


Super!Countdown
29 days 'til Easter!
Super
surge-On

Pushing the Belo button





Tim Yap

WHEN DRA. VICKI BELO meets people, she couldn't help but size them up. It is after all, a huge part of who she is as the nation's progenitor of cosmetic surgery and beautification.

[illegible]

Enough to give back

[illegible]

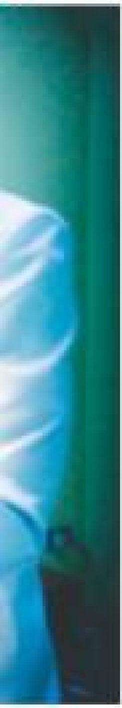
Self-improvement inside out

[illegible]



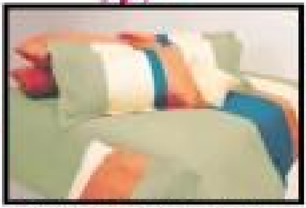
Vicki Belo

[illegible]



Dr. Vicki Belo's mission is clear: 'To make the world more beautiful, one person at a time.' And this time, she wants men to join the fun too


LA CROIX. Inspired by the Cross & the graphic intersection it creates


THE STRIP. Inspired by my love for shopping specifically in shopping strips such as those in L.A. and New York


MIRAGE. Inspired by mirror-like images or repetition of designs

In bed with Rajo

I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED IN RAJO Laurel's magic. And I witnessed it firsthand a few years ago, while preparing for a close friend's wedding.


EMERALD. Inspired by my favorite diamond cut, with rectangles intersecting each other


CATWALK. Inspired by the stage where models sashay during fashion shows


AUTOBON. Inspired by the speed and long lines of German highways.


RAJO Laurel invites you to bed

Super

style . urban living . pop culture . entertainment . recreation

Unrole models

Why Hollywood girls going bad could actually be a good thing



Age against the machine

Gino de la Paz



AND SO IT CAME TO PASS, IN July of 2003, that Junior Hollywood's then power-brokers-to-be, who answered to the names Hilary Duff, Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen, et al., decided that Britney Spears trumped Christina Aguilera—but barely—in the battle of the royal belly buttons.

[illegible]

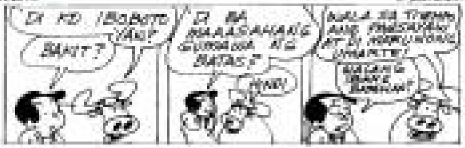
From singing sweetheart to cautionary tale

[illegible]

GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS



A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA



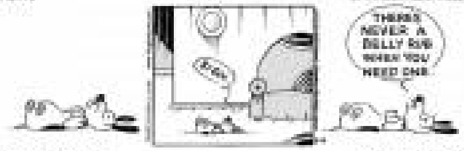
BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT



PUGAD BABOY BY PM JUNIOR



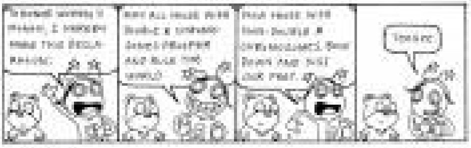
MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL



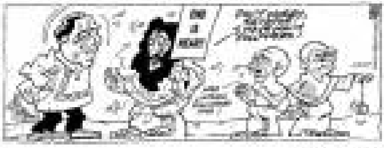
LOVESKNOTS BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO



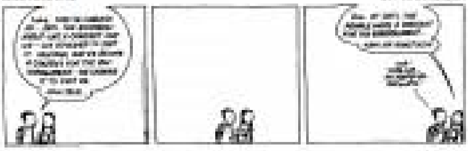
ATOMO AND WEBBY BY LYRA GARCELLANO



DIVINE COMEDY BY STEVEN PABALINAS



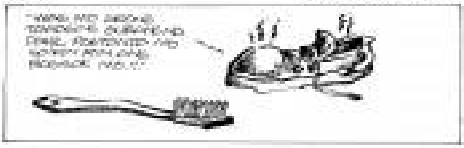
KIKO MACHINE BY MANIX ABRERA



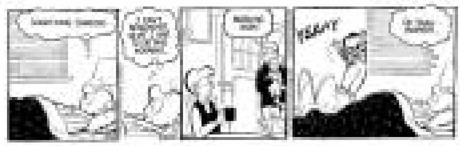
MIKROKOSMOS BY JOMIKE TEJIDO



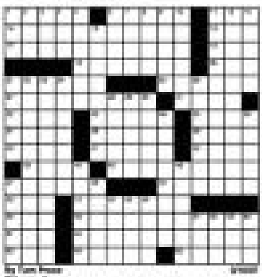
TULDOK BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING



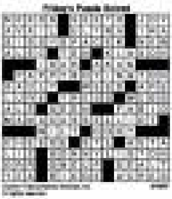
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON



DAILY CROSSWORD



Friday's Puzzle Solved



HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

7		8						1
				3	6			
			4					5
	3		2		1	5		
	1			5			9	
		9	7		3		6	
2					4			
			9	1				
3						7		9

Difficulty Level ★★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Tips and programs at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

The Fresh Prince of Reggae

More Super! 24/7 events:

Mar. 10, Saturday

Mar. 11, Sunday

Mar. 12, Monday

24/7

Paolo R. Reyes

Mar. 13, Tuesday

Mar. 14, Wednesday

Mar. 15, Thursday

Mar. 16, Friday

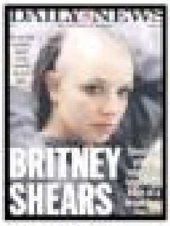




Unrole models



OH MY GAUD!: Paris Hilton



SHE'S NOT CRAZY, SHE'S JUST A LITTLE UNWELL



Girls gone wilder

Embracing the adversaries

Getting on that high horse

Poker party

SATURDAY Special

'Letters' leaves indelible, elegiac imprint

NOTWITHSTANDING its subject matter (one of WWII's bloodiest battles) and its length (2 hours and 21 minutes), "Letters from Iwo Jima" is more an intimate film than an epic.

[illegible]

Point of view

[illegible]



EASTWOOD AND WATANABE. Their movie paints an unsentimental picture of the realities of war.

[illegible]

Olympic equestrian

[illegible]

Hollywood's golden oldies return to action

[illegible]

Series

[illegible]

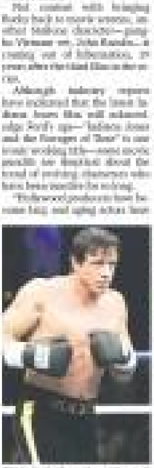
Young sidekick

[illegible]

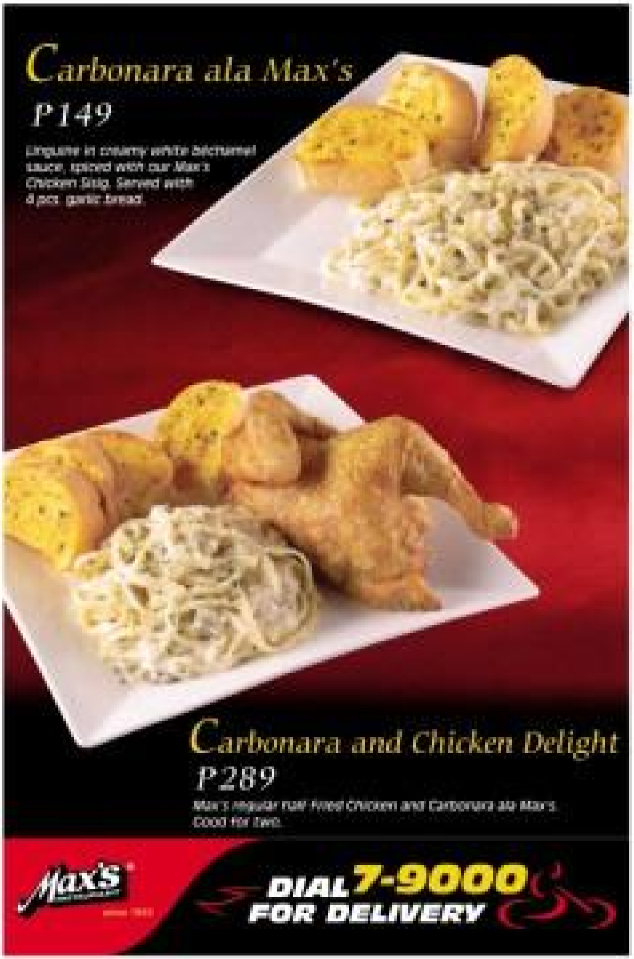
History

[illegible]

AFP



STALLONE. "Rocky" and "Rambo" come out of hibernation.



'Batad' filmmaker gets ready for his moment of truth





By Rica Arevalo

Apprentice

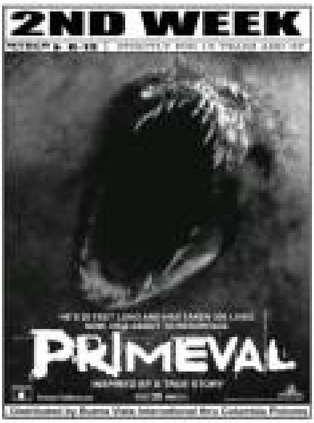


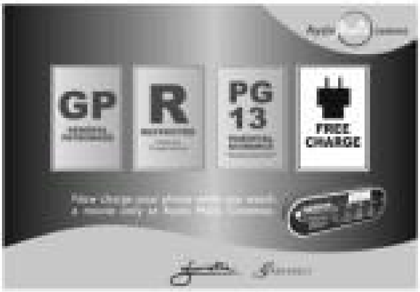
















Two films boost viewers' 'Happiness' factor





THE SMITHS: Father and son deliver exceptional performances.

Local player

Inspiring

Something in common



Tours, Leisure & Chow

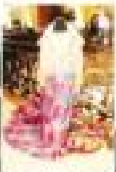
Where to Stop Where to GO

A weekly directory of the country's best establishments

[illegible]

The Bellevue Hotel presents Hot! Haute! Haught!

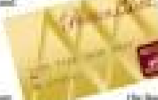






[illegible]

Pavilion gold dining privilege card



[illegible]

Chili's Frequent Diner Card: The deal that's a steal!

[illegible]

People, Events & Products

Acer remains the country's no. 1 notebook PC

[illegible]

Thick & Easy, a vital nutritional aid

[illegible]



SOMERSET PHILIPPINES RECEIVES INT'L HONORS

[illegible]

SATURDAY Special

Whose film is it, anyway?



By Nestor U. Torre



HUDSON. Lucky beneficiary of Beyoncé's cluelessness.

KNOWLES. Luminaries like her shouldn't take their stardom for granted.

AFTER WATCHING "DREAMgirls," we sit in the dark, astounded. Then, a key question stumbles toward the light: "Beyoncé Knowles, why in the world did you agree to 'star' in this film in its present form?"

We ask the question because, after all is said and done, it isn't Beyoncé who's the film's real star, but Jennifer Hudson. Whatever possessed Beyoncé, then, to hand the coveted over on a silver platter to newcomer Jennifer?

More experienced

Being more experienced in show business, Beyoncé must have sensed that, as written, Jennifer's role would upstage hers like heck, and run away with the film. So, why did she allow it to happen? Whose film is it, anyway?

By rights, the answer to that follow-up question should be: Beyoncé's, naturally. By rights, the biggest star should play the pivotal role of a movie, around whose character the central plot revolves, and on whom all eyes in the theater should be focused.

That's what it means to be a star, and it's one of the main reasons why talents "kill" themselves to attain stardom. So, after working so hard (since she was an adolescent) to get her glittering star, why did Beyoncé settle for a role of lesser dramatic importance than Jennifer's?

Whatever the reason, it was a mistake. Beyoncé and her handlers should have known that, as Effie White, Jennifer Hudson had the most dramatic scenes and the best songs in the movie, so Beyoncé's own portrayal would end up being upstaged. True enough, on Academy Awards night, Hudson won an Oscar, while Knowles went home empty-handed.

This should serve as a lesson to other stars: Don't take your stardom for granted. Know your stellar strengths, uphold them, and don't give them away like candy!

Chances

It's one thing for a star to play a cameo or guest role in a small film to support it and boost its chances at the box office—and it's something else entirely for a star in a big film, but in a lesser role!

In the first instance, the star is to be praised. In the second, however, he or she should be rapped for not sufficiently understanding how films work, how they're structured and how viewers respond to them.

For her part, Jennifer is the truly lucky beneficiary of Beyoncé's cluelessness. But, she should realize that, in her next film outing, she probably won't be as fortunate, since most other stars know what it's all about, and will fight tooth and nail for the central focus their stellar status deserve!

STREET SMART

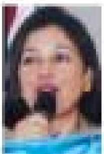


Mandy Navasero

Touching souls

"TOUCH ANOTHER Soul" is the theme song of Rotary Club Makati ... which was launched in 1994.

[illegible]



SINGSON: ...

NOW SHOWING

Passion, restraint bolster Will Smith's pursuit of thespic growth

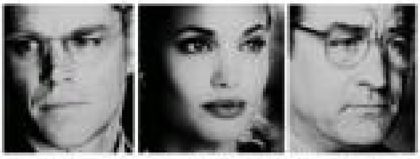


Fresh, idiosyncratic lineup for *Radioactive Sago*

Corruption

Ideas







Cinemalaya 2007 enters shooting phase



Dead-end lives

Love and treachery

Latest batch

Triumphs and failures on Hallmark

MONTAGE



'THE RUNAWAY.'

Direct to DVD

'Because I Said So'

'Into the Woods' auditions

Evolution of videogame

'Art to Art'

Enchanted Kingdom



KEATON AND MOORE.



Who says Hollywood stardom is strictly homegrown?



'Survivor: Fiji' exit hasn't dampened Liliana's fighting spirit



SHOW BIZ Q & A

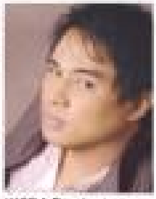
'TVM' *underscores need to end culture of silence, violence*



Mariah Carey *plays country singer in 'Tennessee'*

SM execs reiterate support for digital filmmakers

Triumphs and failures on Hallmark





Cate Blanchett evokes ERA of old Hollywood



Art teacher

Leading men

None of our business

Implied arrangement

Psychological violence

Developing teamwork

Lotus Pond

R. Valencia and S. Bismark

Real intention

Imperfections